

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE OF SUNNAH?

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INTRODUCTION

In the Qur'aan Majeed Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) is commanded by Allah Ta'ala:

“Say (O Muhammad !) - If you love Allah then follow me (i.e. Muhammad, the Rasool of Allah).”

The Qur'aan Majeed is replete with exhortations commanding obedience to Allah Ta'ala. Such obedience is coupled with obedience to Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam), hence we observe Aayaat of the following type repeatedly appearing in the Qur'aan Shareef,

“O People of Imaan ! Obey Allah and obey the Rasul...”

It is thus abundantly clear that the Path of the Truth, the Path which leads towards Allah Ta'ala can never be a path which diverges from the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) has indicated this Path very clearly. He has left no ambiguity regarding the Path which the Ummah has to follow towards the ultimate goal of everlasting success and salvation. The Path of Allah and the Path of His Rasool, in the words of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) is the Path ***“on which I and my Sahaabah are”***. A path which departs from the well-defined and clear Path of Rasulullaah and His Sahaabah is not the Path of the Sunnah — it is not the path intended by Allah Ta'ala for the Ummah of Islaam — it is not the road which the followers of Muhammad (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) have to trod (tread) along.

Many heretics and deviated groups lay claim to be following the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). What then is the criterion by which we can verify the assertions of the various claimants....? Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) has pointed out the one distinguishing sign by which the people of the Sunnah may be recognized. That emblem and glittering sign in the words of

Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) is the Path of his Sahaabah who transmitted all the details of Rasulullaah's (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) Sunnah to the Ummah. It will, therefore be seen that among all the sects laying claim to Islaam and the Sunnah, only ONE group accepts the Sahaabah as the authorities of Islaam; only ONE group accepts the Sunnah as interpreted by the Sahaabah; only ONE group casts aside opinion, reason and logic when these conflict with the pronouncements and directions of the Sahaabah. That ONE group is the Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jamaa'ah which advocates strict obedience to the minutest details of the Sunnah practices of Nabi-e-Kareem (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). The practices, the beliefs and the customs of the followers of the Sunnah never vary from the Sunnah as taught by the Sahaabah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). If, therefore, a charge of heresy, kufr or irtidaad is brought against any professed Muslims of the Sunnah, such Muslims should be examined in the light of the Sunnah of the Sahaabah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

In these times there exists a cult of grave-worship. The adherents of this cult of qabar puja (grave-worship) lay vociferous claim to being the lovers of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). They have raised the slogan of "Hubb-e-Rasool" (Love of Rasool) very loudly. And, they offer practical demonstration of their concept of "Hubb-e-Rasool" by indulging in a variety of rites of grave-worship. Those who do not participate in the grave-worshipping acts and rites of this cult of Qabar Puja are branded as the enemies of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). In spite of their loud trumpeting of the slogan of "Hubb-e-Rasool", there is no resemblance between their style of life and worship and that of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Every Muslim, no matter how intellectually and spiritually retrogressed he may be, can understand that neither Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) nor

his illustrious Sahaabah were given up to acts of qabar puja. Such worship — qabar puja — is the practice of pagans, not of the Ambiyaa (Alayhimus salaam) and their Ashaab who were the very antithesis of kufr and shirk.

The sect of Qabar Pujaaris have made the Ulama of Deoband and the Tablighi Jamaat their prime targets of attack and vituperation for the single reason that the Ulama of Deoband resolutely declare the falsehood of qabar puja and bid'ah. In the attempt to drive a wedge between the Ulama of Haqq and the general Muslim public, the leaders of the Qabar Pujaari sect have concocted many a vile slander by embarking on an exercise of blatant distortion, falsehood and misrepresentation of the writings of the august Ulama of Deoband. The ensuing discussion is a brief explanation of the religious racket in which the qabar pujaaris are involved in their campaign to discredit the Ulama of Deoband and the Tablighi Jamaat.

Those who are in any doubt, regarding the Sunnah standing of the Tablighi Jamaat or the Ulama of Deoband should sit in their company for a while, not necessarily with the intention to follow them, but with the motive of ascertaining the truth of their beliefs and practices. The unprejudiced observer will not fail to discern that the Tablighi Jamaat and the Ulama of Deoband teach nothing other than the pure, straight and simple teachings of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Never will you find the Tablighi Jamaat nor the Ulama of Deoband propagating any rite and belief of some queer and mysterious cult. The men of Haqq discuss and put across only the Shariah of Muhammadur Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). You will be surprised at the clarity of their teachings. They teach the Kalimah which Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) came to hand down to mankind; they do not teach acts of grave-worship. They teach you how to perform Salaat; they do

not teach you to make sajdah and ruku' to the graves. They teach you to conduct your daily life in conformity with the detailed Sunnah practices of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam), for such obedience and submission to the true Sunnah are true HUBB-E-RASOOL. They do not teach you to make tawaaf of graves. The Tablighi Jamaat and the Ulama of Deoband do not teach the Ummah to dance and sing qabar puja songs through the night and then sleep away the Fajr Salaat as is the notorious practice of grave-worshippers. Hubb-e-Rasool is not the employment of dagga-smoking qawwaals to ruin the auspicious moments of the night with their shouts of "Hubb-e-Rasool". Hubb-e-Rasool is to act in obedience to the Commands of Allah and to abstain from His Prohibitions. Hubb-e-Rasool is not to decorate graves with bed-sheets and kiss the sands of the grave. Hubb-e-Rasool is to decorate the soul with the moral teachings imparted to the Ummah by Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Hubb-e-Rasool is not to deliberately and slanderously mislead innocent and unwary Muslims by knowingly misquoting the writings of the Ulama-e-Haq and by attempting to bring a halt to the activities of those who teach people how to recite the Kalimah and how to perform Salaat.

The observer who is in any doubt can attain the truth by just a little reflection: Is qabar puja the Sunnah or is the Kalimah and Salaat the Sunnah? Are those who perpetrate acts of qabar puja the followers of the Sunnah or are those who teach the Ummah the five fundamentals of Islaam the followers of the Sunnah? There is no difficulty in arriving at the correct conclusion.

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WHO ARE THE PEOPLE OF THE SUNNAH?

Every now and again the Qabar Pujaari sect releases for distribution its age-old and worn-out pamphlet crammed with lies and blatant distortions in condemnation of the Ulama of Deoband and the Tablighi Jamaat. The monotonous accusation of falsehood levelled against the followers of the Sunnah by the commercial thugs of the grave-worshipping sect is so vile in its untruths that no man of intelligence can ever accept the slanders stated in the pamphlets of the Qabar Pujaaris.

The Qabar Pujaari group specializes in two things; One, acts of grave-worship. Two, slandering the Ulama-e-Haqq who condemn grave-worship. The hatred and malice of the Qabar Pujaaris are specially directed against the Ulama-e-Deoband because of the simple fact that these illustrious Ulama, the Guardians of the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam), have all along been in the fore-front exposing the evil and shirk of the grave-worshippers. Thus, in order to sow suspicion and distrust for the Ulama among the general public, the grave-worshippers have conspired to mislead ordinary folk with lies, half-truths and downright fabrications attributed falsely to the Ulama-e-Deoband.

Lest unwary and gullible people swallow the falsehood contained in the pamphlet of the Qabar Pujaaris, we deem it expedient to answer the false accusations and slanders which these vile grave-worshippers are always levelling against some of the finest and highest Representatives of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

In its pamphlet of corruption, the grave-worshippers seek to convey the impression that the Ulama of Deoband are a new group or a sect which has arisen recently, hence they refer to the Ulama of the Sunnah as the "Deobandi Movement". Deoband is merely the

name of a town in India where the famous Darul Uloom is located. If the Deobandi Ulama's beliefs and teachings are unacceptable to the grave-worshippers then in actual fact their dislike is for the beliefs and teachings propagated by the Sahaabah since the beliefs and teachings of the Ulama-e-Deoband are in fact the Shariah of Islaam which was handed to the Ummah by the Sahaabah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). There is not a single teaching or belief of the Ulama of Deoband which the Qabar Pujaaris can point out to be at variance or in conflict with the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). But, grave-worship is a rotten evil. Those given up to such rotten practices as qabar puja will stop at nothing in their desperate efforts to pile lie upon lie in their conspiracy to blacken the fair names of the Ulama-e-Haqq. The rotten beliefs and the falsehood which the grave-worshippers attribute to the Ulama-e-Haqq in their vile pamphlet are not the beliefs of the Ulama-e-Haqq.

Since grave-worship is among the worst acts of kufr and shirk, those addicted to this qabar puja think absolutely nothing of seizing statements out of context; of joining unrelated sentences and of speaking downright lies and then attribute such concocted falsehood to the Ulama who are duty-bound by Islaam to expose the evils of qabar puja.

Among the tricks employed by the Qabar Pujaaris is to appeal to the emotions of the public who lack Islamic knowledge. Their presentation of arguments is designed to stir the emotions of people not versed with the Shariah. They will present a half-truth on an emotional basis to churn up hatred for the Ulama-e-Haqq. For instance, if the Ulama proclaim that the custom of khatam which is in vogue among the Qabar Pujaaris — the custom together with its un-Islamic frills and fancies — is contrary to the teachings of Islaam,

the Qabar Pujaaris slander that the Ulama of Deoband say that making khatam of the Qur'aan is haraam. If the Ulama say that it is not the Sunnah practice to recite Muhammadur Rasulullaah at the end of Athaan, the Qabar Pujaaris slander that the Ulama of Deoband assert that it is not necessary to believe in Muhammad as the Rasool of Allah. When the Ulama proclaim that the meelaad practice of the Qabar Pujaaris is not an Islamic custom and was never taught by Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) and the Sahaabah, the Qabar Pujaaris accuse the Ulama of Deoband of disrespecting Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) inspite of the evil factors which accompany the meelaad and urs festivals of the grave-worshippers.

The pamphlet of the grave-worshippers claims practices such as their peculiar way of faatehah, du'aa-e-thaani and du'aa after Janaazah Salaat are not sinful. They accuse the Ulama of Deoband of prohibiting 'Ibaadat by speaking against these customs. The peculiar rituals of faatehah, du'aa-e-thaani and du'aa after Janaazah Salaat are not Islamic practices even if they are given the hue and form of Ibaadat. If someone performs four rakaats Fajr Fardh instead of two, it will be only proper to claim that the four rakaats thus performed are sinful. Only those whose minds have become warped by the rituals of grave-worship will argue that those who forbid four rakaats Fardh Fajr are in fact prohibiting the performance of Salaat. When Islaam does not teach du'aa after Janaazah Salaat, du'aa-e-thaani and these faatehah practices of the Qabar Pujaaris, then the Ulama of Deoband are merely proclaiming the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) in condemning the practices of dark and evil bid'ah originated by the grave-worshippers.

In its pamphlet the Qabar Pujaaris lump together several different Ahaadeeth to convey the impression that what they have quoted is one single Hadith. Then by means of their crooked way of interpretation they assert that the subject being condemned in the various Ahaadeeth (which they conglomerated into one) is the Tablighi Jamaat. Let us analyse briefly the statements and interpretation presented by the Qabar Pujaaris.

About the Tablighi Jamaat, the votaries of qabar puja say in their pamphlet,

Do not be surprised for the Great Prophet (S.A.W.) of Islaam has warned us of this dangerous movement 1400 years ago. He said, "In the final era there will appear liars who will speak of things unheard by you, your fathers and forefathers."

What is it that Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said about the liars which will appear....? He said that they "will speak of things unheard". Now what does the Tablighi Jamaat speak of..? Millions of people the world over can testify. Even numerous former members of the Qabar Pujaari sect who joined the Tablighi Jamaat and reformed themselves can testify. The propagations of the Tablighi Jamaat are no secrets. The Tablighi Jamaat calls on people to recite the Kalima La ilaaha illallahu Muhammadur Rasulullaah correctly. Is this something unheard of in the ranks of Islaam and Muslims....? The Tablighi Jamaat propagates correct and punctual performance of the five daily Salaat. Is this something which you and your forefathers have never heard about..? The Tablighi Jamaat teaches that you must order your daily life in accordance with the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Is this something unheard of among Muslims..? What is new that the Tablighi Jamaat is propagating..? Let the Qabar Pujaaris point out a single propagation of the Tablighi Jamaat which

can come within the purview of the “unheard of things” stated in the Hadith.

Yes, it can be asserted without the slightest fear of contradiction that qabar puja is unheard of among Muslims. Muslims are not grave-worshippers. The Sahaabah never worshipped graves. This Hadeeth therefore fits the Qabar Pujaaris aptly. Du’aa-thaani, the rituals of faatehah of the grave-worshippers and du’aa after Janaazah Salaat are things unheard of in the Shariah. These rituals were never taught by Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) and the Sahaabah. The Hadeeth which the Qabar Pujaaris cite against the Tablighi Jamaat thus applies to these grave-worshippers in every aspect. The things, customs and rituals of kufr, shirk, qabar puja and dark bid’ah introduced by the grave-worshippers are the unheard of things mentioned in the Hadeeth of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). No sensible and unbiased Muslim will ever believe that the subject of the Hadeeth can be persons who call on others to learn the Kalimah, perform Salaat, fast and generally lead a life in accordance with the Sunnah.

If the Tablighi Jamaat is propagating a new concept, a new way or a path which diverges from the Sunnah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam), then the Ulama-e-Haqq will be the first to pounce on them and expose the innovated bid’ah. But, the bid’ah and the evil of shirk are like rotten sores in the religion of those who have opted for qabar puja. In fact, Qabar Pujaaris are the worst of creation since they propagate the worst of evils, viz., shirk — worshipping graves — making sajdah to the graves — making tawaaf of the graves — kissing the graves — directing their prayers to the graves instead of to Allah.

In its pamphlet of slander, the Qabar Pujaaris citing a hadith supposedly referring to the Tablighi Jamaat state,

“They will call people towards the Quraan (Tabliqi Jamaat).”

Millions of people can testify that the Tablighi Jamaat never calls people to make a study of the Qur’aan. Like Islaam demands of Muslims, the Tablighi Jamaat and all uprighteous Muslims propagate that Tilaawat of the Qur’aan should be made. The Tablighi Jamaat does not organize Qur’aan study classes like modernist bodies which present their personal opinions as the Deen. The Tablighi Jamaat teaches nothing apart from what a Muslim is required to do in daily life, viz., perform Salaat, fast, respect Muslims and abstain from evil.

The manner in which the Qabar Pujaaris have manipulated the Hadeeth gives the impression that it is totally sinful to call towards the Qur’aan. But calling to the Qur’aan by qualified men of Islaam, the ‘Ulama, is commanded by Allah Ta’ala. Yes, the type of calling to the Qur’aan practised by modernist groups making use of some baatil English commentary of the Qur’aan is undoubtedly proscribed and condemned by Islaam. Such calling of the modernists is undoubtedly evil. Although the Qabar Pujaaris may argue that they do not call to the Qur’aan, nevertheless, they cannot deny that they call towards qabar puja — grave-worship. While the Tablighi Jamaat does not call on people to make individual study and pass opinion on the Qur’aan, it (Tablighi Jamaat) does undoubtedly call to Muslims to put the Qur’aan into practice in the way expounded by the Sahaabah of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

In its pamphlet the Qabar Pujaaris present the following Hadeeth in opposition to the Tablighi Jamaat,

“They will claim to be followers of Hadis.”

The intention of the Qabar Pujaaris in citing this statement of a hadith is to give out the impression that while the Tablighi Jamaat professes to be following the Sunnah it is propagating in conflict with the Hadith. But, in proclaiming Salaat, Saum, Hajj, Zakaat and the Kalimah the Tablighi Jamaat is doing nothing other than following the Hadeeth of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). There is no conflict between the propagation of the Tablighi Jamaat and the Hadeeth of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). It serves no purpose for the Qabar Pujaaris to cite Ahaadeeth out of context and then tag the Tablighi Jamaat with labels which do not apply to it. Qabar Puja cannot survive by levelling slanders against the Tablighi Jamaat or the Ulama of Islaam. Qabar Puja is baatil. Grave-worship is the worst evil and shirk. It has absolutely no place in Islaam. The above hadith statement which the grave-worshippers cite against the Tablighi Jamaat, in actual fact applies to the Qabar Pujaari sect because the worshippers of graves, inspite of their vociferous slogans of “Hubb-e-Rasool” (Love of the Rasool), act in diametric conflict with the Sunnah and Ahaadeeth of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). They claim to be followers of Hadith, but their rituals of qabar puja and their hotch-potch of other paganistic rituals are all in violent conflict with the Hadeeth of Nabi-e-Kareem (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

Hurling another slander against the Tablighi Jamaat, the Qabar Pujaari pamphlet says,

“... Tabliqi Jamaat, which appoints ameers who go around saying this is Bidat, that is Shirk, Haraam and Kufr etc.”

Every man who has the least bit of honesty and who has heard any Ameer of any Tablighi Jamaat group anywhere in the world speak, will testify that NEVER did any Ameer dwell on any

contentious issue; never did any Tablighi Jamaat Ameer pronounce fatwas of bid'ah, shirk, kufr and haraam. Such pronouncements do not form part of the Tablighi Jamaat programme. Only grave-worshippers are guilty of levelling such lies against the Jamaat since qabar puja effaces all vestiges of truth and moral integrity from the heart of man. The Tablighi Jamaat operates in a restricted area of Tableegh. Its talks and propagation are confined to Kalimah and Salaat. It does not delve into academic issues. Such issues which require pronouncement of kufr, bid'ah, shirk, haraam and halaal are the domain of exclusively the 'Ulama. Yes, the Ulama will proclaim that the evil of qabar puja is kufr, shirk and haraam. The Ulama will pronounce as bid'ah the rituals of innovated worship invented by the Ahl-e-Bid'ah and the grave-worshippers. Such pronouncements are the function of the Ulama who will of necessity make these Shar'ee pronouncements whenever occasion demands. If we make such pronouncements, it is false to attribute it to the Tablighi Jamaat. Even the activities of the Tablighi Jamaat come under the scrutiny of the watchful eye of the 'Ulama. Should the Ulama-e-Haqq discern any deviation in the way of the Tablighi Jamaat, then the correct and true pronouncements will be made in the interest of the Ummah. But, never was it the function of the Tablighi Jamaat to make pronouncements of kufr, shirk, bid'ah and haraam. The Qabar Pujaaris have deliberately mis-directed their charge. Let them level their CHARGE AGAINST US, FOR WE ASSERT WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST HESITATION THAT QABAR PUJA IS KUFR, SHIRK AND HARAAM. Ask any man in the street — any man who has ever heard any Ameer of a Tablighi Jamaat group speaking — if at any time an Ameer of the Jamaat had made pronouncements of bid'ah, shirk and kufr !

In its pamphlet, the Qabar Pujaaris monotonously list some lies and attribute these to be the beliefs of the Ulama of Deoband. Let us now answer these slanders briefly.

(1) *“The Ulama of Deoband believe that Allah Ta’ala speaks lies.”*

This allegation is among the worst slanders which the grave-worshippers direct against our ‘Ulama. Never has any ‘Aalim of Haqq ever pronounced such a vile belief. The references cited by the Qabar Pujaaris in support of their contention are false. No such statements are found in any of the books written by the Ulama of Deoband.

(2) *“The Prophet (S.A.W.) is not the only Rahmatul-lil-Alameen.”*

(Note - The terms S.A.W. mentioned here are not ours. They are the abbreviations used by the Qabar Pujaaris for Durood on our Nabi (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam). They loudly claim that they are the lovers of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam), but they are too lazy and lack the decency to follow the Shariah and state as required, Sallallahu alayhi wasallam.

The question of “Rahmatul-lil-Alameen” has been explained in detail by us in a separate article which was published sometimes ago. Those who wish to know more about this question and the Qabar Pujaari accusation may write to the Majlis for a copy of the relevant article.

(3) *“To lecture on or discuss the Shahadat of Hadhrat Husain (radhiyallahu anhu) is Haraam.”*

This is another false allegation of the grave-worshippers. The reference cited in the pamphlet in substantiation of this

accusation against Hadhrat Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) does not assert what is being contended. No one has ever said that it is haraam to discuss the Shahaadat of Hadhrat Husain (radhiyallahu ‘anhu). However, the baatil customs and un-Islamic rituals introduced by the bid’atis, which accompany the festivals and float-processions so notorious on these occasions, are unlawful. The whole innovated practice and rituals which accompany the celebrations and the death anniversary renewed each year by the grave-worshippers and the Shiahs are haraam. But, the grave-worshippers have taken the Fatwaa of Hadhrat Maulana Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) out of its proper perspective and presented a totally distorted meaning; in short, the accusation is false.

(4) *“Feeding people and providing sharbat in the month of Muharram is haraam.”*

This allegation is similar to No. 3 above. A half-truth is presented. The prohibition is directed at the customs, celebrations and festivals with their un-Islamic factors which have neither sanction nor origin in Islaam. Muharram festivals which neither Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) nor the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) nor the illustrious Fuqahaa (rahmatullaahi alayhim) taught or practised are in fact the target of the prohibition stated in Fataawaa Rashidiyah. No intelligent and unbiased person can accept that any Muslim will say that it is unlawful to feed people in any month. But, the circumstances, the form and customs attached to the type of eating and “feeding” and merrymaking in the name of Islaam practised by Qabar Pujaaris have to be viewed in the light of the principles of the Shariah. In the light of the

principle of the Shariah the innovated Muharram customs, festivals and rituals are haraam.

(5) *“To read Alhamdu Faatehah before eating food is bid’ah.”*

To read Alhamdu Faatehah in Salaat is also bid’ah. To recite Surah Faatihah in Tashahhud is bid’ah notwithstanding the fact that Surah Faatihah is part of the Qur’aan. To recite Muhammadur Rasulullaah at the end of Athaan is also bid’ah. In short, if a Sunnah act is eliminated, displaced, added to, deleted from or mutilated, then such act is bid’ah. Before eating food, Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) has instructed the Ummah of the du’aa to be recited. To displace the Masnoon du’aa and substitute it with an innovated “Alhamdu Faatihah” innovated by Qabar Pujaaris is undoubtedly a dark Bid’ah. Muslims prefer the du’aas of Rasulullaah and the proper du’aa for the proper occasion. No Muslim in his sane mind can opt for a bid’ah of the Qabar Pujaaris and reject the established Sunnah practices which the Ummah has inherited from Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

(6) *“Giyarwi Sharief is Haraam and Kufr, even if Quran is read.”*

The false accusation will become very plain after the actual Fatwaa of Maulana Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) has been seen. The actual words in Fataawaa Rashidiyah on the question of Giyaarwi are as follows,

“With the intention of Isaale Thawaab to practise Giyaarwi and feed people are permissible. But the stipulation of a specific day and specific food is a bid’ah which has become amalgamated with it (the custom of Giyaarwi) even if the organizer does not regard the stipulation as essential. However, since the general public is misled

by this (stipulation of specific day and specific food), the organizer (of Giyaarwi) should change the day and the type of food. If this is done, then there is nothing wrong.” This is Hadrwat Gangohi’s Fatwaa on Giyaarwi. Indeed a far cry from the allegation of Haraam and Kufr slandered by the Qabar Pujaaris. Since the Shariah has not stipulated any specific day or special type of food to be served to the poor as acts of Isaale Thawaab (Thawaab for the dead), it is bid’ah to introduce customs and stipulations which have no Islamic sanction.

(7) *“It is Sawab to eat vultures.”*

Only grave-worshippers possess the audacity to level such blatant slander against the Ulama of Islaam. Nowhere in Fataawaa Rashidiyah nor in any other book of any Aalim of Islaam has it ever been said that it is an act of thawaab to eat vultures. Vultures are haraam for consumption. There is no doubt in this fact. This accusation indicates the degree of untruth which the Qabar Pujaaris are prepared to pedal. They brazenly state name of book and page number while none of their blatant falsehood appears in the books which they name. But, they are aware that the man in the street has no access to these books, hence they feel snug in their lies.

(8) *“We cannot make nikah with any person who takes part in Urs etc.”*

This statement attributed to Hadhrat Maulana Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) does not appear anywhere in Fataawaa Rashidiyah mentioned by the Qabar Pujaaris, nor does it appear in any other book. In Fataawaa Rashidiyah it is stated that although nikaah with the perpetrators of bid’ah is valid, it is not permissible

to give one's daughter in nikaah to a faasiq. The perpetrator of bid'ah is among the worst of fussaah. It is not permissible to associate with fussaah (flagrant sinners) according to the Shariah, hence it is not permissible for a Muslim to permit his daughter to marry a faasiq who grovels in acts of bid'ah.

(9) *"Ashraf Ali Thanwi, a founder member of Deobandi says, 'The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) has an education like that of children, lunatics and animals of every category.'"*

Who other than those addicted to qabar puja can speak such lies and blasphemy..? The worshippers of graves cite Hadhrat Thaanvi's book, Hifzul Imaan as the book in which this blasphemous statement appears. But, nowhere in Hifzul Imaan nor in any other book of Hadhrat Thaanvi (rahmatullaahi alayh) does such kufr appear. How is it ever possible for such a great 'Aalim of Islaam — for such a great Saint of Allah to utter such blasphemy..? Suffice to say that the Qabar Pujaaris can never escape the Wrath of Allah Ta'ala for having levelled such a vile slander against such a great Man of Islaam.

(10) *"Prophets are not free of sins"*

The Qabar Pujaaris attribute this belief to Hadhrat Maulana Qaasim Nanotwi (rahmatullaahi alayh). It is the belief of Hadhrat Nanotwi (rahmatullaahi alayh) and all the Ulama of Deoband that all the Ambiyaa are Ma'soom — free of sin. Ambiyaa are sinless. This accusation made by the Qabar Pujaaris is another of their vile slanders against the Ulama of Deoband.

(11) “Shaitaan has more education than the Prophet (S.A.W.)”

The Qabar Pujaaris claim that this belief is contained in the book, Barahine Qaatiah. But, this is also another brazen and vile slander against our ‘Ulama. Never ever did any of the Ulama of Deoband make such a blasphemous statement. Such evil words are not to be found in Barahine Qaatiah. The allegation is false and rotten slander from top to bottom. The curse of Allah is on those who slander the Representatives of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

SPEAKING LIES..?

Among the worst of the slanders which the grave-worshippers level against the Ulama of Deoband is the accusation that Hadhrat Allaamah Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) claimed that “Allah Ta’ala speaks lies”, Na’oothubillaah..! There can be nothing farther from the truth than this vile allegation which has been hurled against the fair name of one of the most illustrious Heirs of Rasulullaah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam).

Neither in Fataawah Rashidiyah nor in any other book of Hadhrat Maulana Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) is this vile slander to be found. Having invented this belief of kufr, the qabar pujaari molvies attributed it to Allaamah Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) in a desperate attempt to blacken his glittering name. But Allah Ta’ala declares in the Qur’aan Majeed, *“But, WE fling the Haqq against baatil (falsehood) and it (the Haqq) smashes out the brains of baatil. And, suddenly it (baatil) vanishes.”*

In regard to the accusation levelled against him, Hadhrat Allaamah Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) says the following in his book, Fataawaa Rashidiyah,

“Allah Jalle Jalaaluhu is so Pure and so Holy that the quality of kizb (falsehood — speaking lies) cannot be attributed to HIM.

Ma-aathallah ! (i.e. Allah forbid that anyone holds such a belief of kufr). There is never, never the slightest vestige of falsehood in HIS Speech. Allah Ta’ala states (in the Qur’aan),

‘And, Who can be more truthful in speech than Allah..?’

The person who holds the belief or states verbally that Allah Ta’ala - The True One, speaks lies, is an absolute KAAFIR. He is a MAL’OON (an accursed person). He is an opponent of the Qur’aan, the Hadeeth and ‘Ijma. Never is he a Mu'min.

‘Allah is high above the (falsehood) which the unjust ones speak.’”

All sincere Muslims seeking the truth, but who have been confused by the fraud and deception perpetrated by the qabar pujaaris should now clearly understand from the abovementioned categoric and emphatic statements of Hadhrat Maulana Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) that this noble and illustrious Son of Islaam and Waarith of Nabi (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) could NEVER have been the advocate of the notorious kufr fabricated by grave-worshippers and cunningly attributed to the innocent Servants of Islaam. There can be no clearer statement and clarification of this issue than the above words of the great Allaamah himself.

WHAT THE ULAMA OF MAKKAH SAID

In support of the statements made by Hadhrat Maulana Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullaahi alayh) on this issue darkened by the qabar pujaari molvies, the Hanafi Mufti of Makkah Mukarramah of the time stated,

“All praise is to Allah with Whom is Truth and Reality. I seek aid and taufeeq from HIM. The answer stated by Allaamah Rashid Ahmad is the Haqq from which there is no escape.”

This comment was written by Allaamah Muhammad Sa’eed Bin Muhammad Babaseel, the Shaafi Mufti of Makkah on the instructions of Allaamah Muhammad Saalih, the Hanafi Mufti of Makkah Mukarramah.

The Maaliki Mufti of Makkah Mukarramah, Allaamah Muhammad Aabid Ibn Shaykh Husain and the Hambali Mufti of Makkah, Allaamah Ibn Ibraaheem, giving their support said,

“The answer given by Allaamah Rashid Ahmad (i.e. Maulana Gangohi) is sufficient. It is reliable. It is in fact the Haqq from which there is no escape.”

This will suffice to convince all true searchers of the Haqq.